

Health News Release

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Olympia massage practitioner's license suspended due to sexual misconduct

OLYMPIA — State health officials have immediately suspended the license of a Thurston County massage practitioner based on charges of sexual misconduct.

Charges say Gregory Dean Hinkle (MA60334887) touched a client's genitals and then had consensual intercourse during a massage session. Hinkle is also accused of sexual misconduct and inappropriate conversations with at least three other clients.

Hinkle cannot practice in Washington until the charges are resolved. He has 20 days to respond to the charges and to ask for a hearing.

The documents can be seen online by clicking "Look up a health care provider" on the Department of Health website. Copies can be requested by calling 360-236-4700. That number can also be used to file complaints against health care providers in Washington.

The Department of Health protects and promotes public health, safety, and welfare in Washington by regulating the competency and quality of health care providers. The agency establishes, monitors, and enforces qualifications for licensing, consistent standards of practice, continuing competency mechanisms, and discipline. Rules, policies, and procedures promote the delivery of quality health care to people in Washington.

The <u>Department of Health website</u> (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, <u>find us on Facebook</u> and <u>follow us on Twitter</u>.

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